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9 February 1965

DD/S REGISTRY

FILE Project 66

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Training

Matt:

25X1A9a

Since I had never heard [REDACTED] give a briefing, I stayed this morning for his presentation to Project [REDACTED]. It was obvious that he is indeed a good briefer. However, I do have some constructive comments, and I hope that they will be so interpreted insofar as this particular briefing to this particular audience is concerned.

25X1A2g

First, and not very important, he stated that 10 percent of the Agency's strength is made up of military personnel on detail. Actually, this figure is a little under 5 percent.

Second, twenty-five minutes were consumed in explaining the history of the National Security Council and how it has been administered under the various Presidents from President Truman through President Johnson, with only about two or three minutes on how it functions under President Johnson, which is, I believe, the point of primary current interest.

Third, Charlie was talking to a group of people, most of whom were older than he; and I think we should assume that, by virtue of the positions they occupy, they are a fairly sophisticated group. Whether or not intentional, it seemed to me that, by citing his personal experiences and by his mannerism in general, Charlie attempted to convey the impression that he had had a ringside seat from which to observe the workings of the inner councils of Presidents Truman through Johnson. I think that only an elder statesman with either no hair or gray hair could get away with this, and I wouldn't be surprised if this wasn't taken pretty much with a grain of salt by his listeners. In other words, a presentation with a great deal more apparent humility probably would have been received better.

Feel free to show these comments to Charlie, and be sure to emphasize to him that they are constructive.

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L. K. White

DD/S:LKW:jrf

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